

88

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/759,714	REILLY ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Steven J. Ganey	3752	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed October 27, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7,9,10,16-18,23,24,26-36 and 38-40.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

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|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                      |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                        | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____    | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

Steven J. Ganey  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit: 3752

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 1, line 17, the word "outlet" has been changed to --outlet duct--.

The above change was done to provide proper antecedent basis and to clearly define the invention.

Claim 30, lines 29, 36, 38 and 41, the word --first-- has been inserted before the word "valve".

The above change was done to provide and maintain proper antecedent basis for the "first valve" throughout the claim.

Claim 38, line 4, the word --first-- has been inserted before the word "valve".

The above change was done to provide and maintain proper antecedent basis for the "first valve" in the claim.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance of claims 1-7, 9 and 10: The prior art did not teach or suggest a valve for controlling fluid flow as currently amended by the applicant in claim 1, together in combination with the other claimed features of applicant's invention. In addition applicant's arguments are well taken were found to be convincing.

Art Unit: 3752

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance of claims 16-18, 23, 24 and 26-29: The prior art did not teach or suggest a valve for controlling fluid flow as claimed by the applicant, specifically a valve comprising a loop mounted on one of said seat and said valve closure member, said loop having an inner and an outer perimeter, a first projection extending along said inner perimeter, and a second projection extending along said outer perimeter, both of said projections facing the other of said seat and said valve closure member for sealing engagement therewith upon pivoting of said valve closure member, said first and second projections being in spaced apart relation to each other and defining a space between them., together in combination with the other claimed features of applicant's invention.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance of claims 30-36 and 38-40: The prior art did not teach or suggest a sprinkler system for fire suppression as claimed by the applicant, specifically a sprinkler system comprising a first valve connected to the piping network between the source of pressurized water and the sprinkler heads, the first valve comprising: an inlet duct connected to the piping network and an outlet duct connected to the piping network, the outlet duct being in fluid communication with the inlet duct, a first conduit providing fluid communication between the source of pressurized water and the pressure chamber, a second conduit providing fluid communication between the pressure chamber and the ambient, and a second valve positioned in the second conduit and regulating the flow of water from the pressure chamber to the ambient to open and close the valve, together in combination with the other claimed features of applicant's invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven J. Ganey whose telephone number is 571-272-4899. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00-5:00; M, Tu, W and Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Shaver can be reached on 571-272-4720. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Steven J. Ganey  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3752

sjg  
11/24/06

  
STEVEN J. GANEY  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
11/24/06